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### Women netters end season with 13-13 overall record

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WOMEN NETTERS END SEASON  
WITH 13-13 OVERALL RECORD  
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MISSOULA--

Women's basketball at the University of Montana is just like a fine wine--it is improving with age.

After just two seasons of existence the UM women's team made the prestigious Association of Intercollegiate Athletic for Women's playoff tournament, held in Bozeman last weekend.

Although losing a defensive battle to Seattle University (46-40), it was still a fine season for coach Robin Selvig's team, as they finished with a 13-13 record, including a 5-6 Northwest Women's Basketball League mark, and two wins (61-58 and 56-52) over inter-state rival Montana State.

The 13 victories for first-year coach Selvig more than doubles last year's (6-13) wins.

"We thought at the start of the year if we could finish at .500 it would be a good year for us," Selvig said. "I think we definitely made some positive strides in starting a successful program."

Montana, which held five or six teams to their lowest point total this season, finished with an excellent 57.2 defensive scoring average. They held Seattle to only 46 points in the postseason tournament. Seattle was averaging 66.5 points a game.

"We had an excellent year defensively," Selvig said. "We need to pick up some slack with our offensive abilities, though. We were not a good team offensively."

Selvig said he will miss his two starting guards, Cheryl Sandbak (from Deer Lodge) and Sheila Sullivan (from Anaconda), both who he will lose to graduation this season.

"Both Cheryl and Sheila ended up to be very fine basketball players," he said.

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"We will definitely miss them. If Sheila wouldn't have got hurt earlier this year, I'm sure she would have had a better year. Cheryl improved as much as anyone on the team."

"I think all the girls should be proud of starting a successful basketball program at the University of Montana," Selvig said. "We wanted to be competitive, and I think that by the last half of the season we were."

One reason Selvig is optimistic about next season is three returning starters, and among the trio are UM's two top scorers, Linda Deden and Sandy Selvig (Robin's sister).

Deden, a 6-1 junior, finished with a 10.8 scoring average, while Selvig (5-11) was close behind with a 9.9 average. Deden also led in rebounding (6.9), followed closely by Selvig (6.7).

The Grizzlies other starter, 5-11 junior Candie Stevens, averaged 5.8 rebounds a game, and 7.0 points. In one game, against Boise State, Stevens hauled down 17 rebounds. Selvig had season honors with 19 rebounds against Flathead Valley CC, where she played last season.

Deden had the highest point total in one game, scoring 23 in a loss to Oregon State.

Coach Selvig said, "Our major recruiting goal is to pick up some offensive skill players, and improve our speed. I'd like to fast break more. If we could score six or eight more points a game I think we can be very competitive next year."

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